Country/Year	1997	1998	1999
Syria	1462	1288	1260
Tajikistan	606	580	393

*Refers to agriculture year (*i.e* July-June) 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000

Import permits for primary farm products

2149. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to permit import of primary farm products on import permit only; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when it would be made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) For seeds and plants meant for propagation and sowing, provision for import permit in the Plants, Fruits and Seeds (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 1989 has already been there. However, the Government have issued a notification dated 1.5.2001 to make requirement of import permit mandatory for the import of plants and fruits for consumption also. However, cut-flower, garlands, bouquets, fruits and vegetables weighing less than two kilograms for personal consumption are exempt from import permit. The said Notification came into effect from 1.6.2001.

Mushroom Spawn Culture by 100% export oriented units and tissue culture materials of any plant origin and flower seeds continue to be imported without permit as provided in the notifications dated 16th July, 1993 and 11th October, 1993 respectively.